



PUBLISHED DAILY AND TRI-WEEKLY BY  
EDGAR SNOWDEN.  
MONDAY EVENING, MARCH 21, 1879.

The result of the difficulty that must occur upon the President's anticipated veto of the bill appropriating the money requisite for carrying on the government, to which the Democrats will add provisions for repealing certain obnoxious laws, is a matter about which all interested in the country's welfare are now anxious, and which everybody is trying to foresee, but anxiety and effort are alike fruitless, and the solution of the question is left to the contingencies of attending circumstances, those upon which the settlement directly rests being no wiser in regard to the terms that shall be resolved than those whose voices will be powerless in determining the solution. That the proposed veto should not be interposed between the wishes of a majority of the people, as expressed through their immediate representatives, and their fruition, we are convinced, not less by the whole spirit of republican institutions than by the words of the man through whose influence the Constitution was adopted. Mr. Hamilton says "a King of Great Britain, with all his train of sovereign attributes, and with all the influence he draws from a thousand sources, would hesitate, at this day"—and that was a hundred years ago, when the people had hardly got a taste of liberty—"to put a negative upon the joint resolutions of the two houses of parliament." He adds, "the primary inducement to conferring the power of the veto upon the President is to enable him to defend himself; the secondary is to increase the chances in favor of the community against the passing of bad laws through haste, in advertence or design;" in other words, he was entrusted with the veto power to repel an attack upon his constitutional rights, and to interfere in a case in which the public good would be evidently and palpably sacrificed. No one contends that the measures proposed by the Democrats could possibly diminish the President's power to defend himself, or decrease his constitutional rights; that they would not lessen the chances of the community against the passage of bad laws through haste, in advertence or design, no one pretends to deny; and that they would not militate against the public good in a case in which the public good would be evidently and palpably sacrificed. No one contends that the measures proposed by the Democrats could possibly diminish the President's power to defend himself, or decrease his constitutional rights; that they would not lessen the chances of the community against the passage of bad laws through haste, in advertence or design, no one pretends to deny; and that they would not militate against the public good in a case in which the public good would be evidently and palpably sacrificed.

We congratulate all the true friends of the State upon the passage of the bill for the settlement of the State debt, by the House of Delegates. The deed was accomplished this afternoon at the time previously designated. Having been amended previous to its passage by the House, it will have to go back to the Senate, in which, however, it will meet with but little if any opposition.

**The State Debt Settled.**  
[Special Dispatch to the Alexandria Gazette.]  
RICHMOND, VA., March 24.—The bill for the settlement of the State debt has just passed the House of Delegates by a vote of 76 to 60.

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF VIRGINIA.**  
In the Senate on Saturday a memorial was presented from the president of the James River and Kanawha Company enclosing a resolution of the stockholders asking the passage of the supplemental railroad bill. It was laid on the table and ordered to be printed.

In the House of Delegates Mr. Walker, of Westmoreland offered the following resolution: Resolved, That during the present session of this Legislature there shall be no allowance to members of the House of Delegates for stationery. Referred to the Committee on House Expenses.

The Speaker laid before the House a communication from the president of the James River and Kanawha Company, covering a memorial in the matter of the proposed sale of its works, &c., which was referred to the Committee on Roads.

House bill to authorize the James River and Kanawha Company to make sale and transfer of all its works, property, and franchise, and to invest the purchaser or purchasers with certain corporate rights, powers, &c., was committed to the Committee on Roads.

House bill amending certain sections of the Code in regard to the working and maintenance of the roads of the Commonwealth was passed. The bill to provide a plan of settlement of the public debt was then discussed until adjournment.

#### VIRGINIA NEWS.

The panel in the Poindester-Curtis murder case was completed on Saturday and the court adjourned until eleven a. m. to-day, when a jury will be selected and the trial proceed.

Ten tons of coal are shipped daily from Arrington depot, Nelson county, to Philadelphia. The amount is soon to be increased to fifteen tons per day.

Hon. Thomas Ewing telegraphed to Richmond, Saturday, that the Richmond and Allegheny Railroad company approved of the contract for the transfer of the James River and Kanawha canal to that company. The canal company had already approved the contract.

The body of Mr. Elias G. Hall, who was killed in the explosion of dynamite at Dutch Gap, several weeks ago, was found Saturday. Frederick Douglass is to deliver a lecture in Staunton next month, for the benefit of a colored church there.

The first number of the Southern Intelligencer, an independent weekly newspaper, edited and published by Col. J. R. Popham, in Richmond, has been received. If the succeeding numbers retain the excellencies of the first, and there is every indication that they will, the Intelligencer will be a first class weekly.

The Richmond Star has just celebrated its third anniversary. By brains, industry and enterprise, it has won a large and increasing patronage.

#### LETTER FROM RICHMOND.

[Correspondence of the Alexandria Gazette.]  
RICHMOND, VA., March 22.—Perhaps the most impressive scene that has taken place in the legislative halls this session was that enacted to-day in the Senate chamber—the admonition delivered by General Wyatt M. Elliott, the presiding officer pro tem, of that body, to Senators Massie and Smith. The dignity, the Chesterfieldian grace of manner, the deep, earnest tone of voice, and the true feeling which characterized the words spoken by General Elliott can not be forgotten by those who were present. Thus spoke this Virginia gentleman and it must have been a source of congratulation to these Virginians present that this task fell upon Senator Elliott, of Rockbridge. The little speech he delivered on the occasion will bear careful analysis. It is a gem of the kind, terse yet tender, withal. Complete—but an added word would mar its beauty. Consider—the elimination of a word would break its continuity. The Senate chamber was crowded on this occasion and the proceedings were listened to with eager interest.

To-day the task of getting jurors in the Poindester case was completed. Young Poindester seemed to take a lively interest in the proceedings to-day. Some of the answers of the taleman were amusing. One of them, Mr. Haynes, thought that he had read was true because he had read it in the newspapers, thus paying a tribute to the papers that never do have anything wrong in their columns—politicians to the contrary notwithstanding. Mr. Dougherty was asked if he had formed any opinion as to the guilt or innocence of the prisoner at the bar. He said he thought he had. Was there yet tender withal. Complete—but an added word would mar its beauty. Consider—the elimination of a word would break its continuity. The Senate chamber was crowded on this occasion and the proceedings were listened to with eager interest.

Several new recruits are reported on the debt payer's side in the House to-day. The Southern Intelligencer, Col. J. R. Popham's new independent paper, which made its appearance to-day, is very severe upon the extreme rightists. It is very evident that they will get no comfort from this quarter. The Intelligencer devotes much space to the subject of Roman Catholicism among the negroes. It is a fact worthy of comment that since the sermon to the negroes by Bishop Keane, many of them have manifested a lively interest in the new religion. Then, too, the invitation extended to them by the Bishop, and the fact that they were allowed to occupy seats in the body of the church and the best seats at that, has pleased them. Some of the best informed of their race have declared that many of them will go over to the Catholic church. The Intelligencer in its article states that no sooner had the Catholics made this attempt to "save the negro" than the Episcopalians and the Presbyterians manifested a lively interest in their welfare. Dr. Armstrong had weekly services for them in the Nonconformist Church, and Drs. Hoge and Read preached to them in the First African Church. The article concludes by congratulating the colored race upon the condition of affairs, and predicts that it must work to the spiritual interest of the negro.

Richmond has a spiritualist. Mrs. A. W. Bodeker, the wife of a well known druggist, has issued the following singular card, which is worthy of close study:

To the Public.—By Medium Mrs. Anna Whitehead Bodeker. Sphere of Control. Amen and Amen.—All who say spirit does not communicate with individuals say untrue. We understand, speak at untimely children, and should be kindly instructed to retain all nature, and open their ears to the proclaimed truth of spirit communion. Every prescher of the "Gospel," every doctor of medicine every judge who prelates against direct spirit communication, never again say world-wide declaimers, venture an opinion regarding mediumism thought, particularly of medium we, without being practically informed of spirit power. Sit at your tables and be rightly instructed, and know of the heavy yoke of ignorance and distrust. Be enlightened in the midst of great spiritual enlightenment which we medium proclaim to all the world.

Despite the anathemas heaped upon some of the Richmond ministers by the organ of the extremists may, indeed all of the Simon Pure, Readjusters attend church regularly here, and the majority of them go to hear these very ministers whom their organs have so much abused.

Mr. Hunter, of Alexandria, to-day introduced a resolution in the House providing that on and after Monday next the House meet at eight o'clock p. m. The resolution was referred, which means that it was killed.

STONEROW.

#### Letter from Falls Church.

[Correspondence of the Alexandria Gazette.]  
FALLS CHURCH, March 24, 1879.—The property of Schuyler Duryea was sold on the 22d by Messrs. Moore & Wells as commissioners of the Circuit Court of Fairfax, and was bought in at \$5,700 by Mrs. Pamela Duryea, who is the last lien holder was compelled to buy the property in for her own protection. The house originally cost nearly \$10,000, when built some seven years ago, and is in a fine state of preservation, but the depression of the times and reduction in the price of material and labor, rendered it impossible to obtain for the property what it originally cost.

The scarlet fever has entirely disappeared, owing to the rigid quarantine imposed, and the whooping cough, which has been ruining its course in the neighborhood, is disappearing with the approach of Spring.

Isaac Crossman has deposited the ties along the Narrow Gauge Railroad for about two miles of its grade, and the work begins to assume a business like air.

The annual visit of the prospective settler in Howard University, at the last commencement, has carried his 111-bacs to Herndon with a view of locating; he is spoken of by the faculty of the institution as a thorough student, and likely to become a successful practitioner and an ornament to his profession.

#### Fifth Avenue Hotel.

NEW YORK, March 24.—The fact that Hiram Hitchcock has purchased Griswold's interest in the Fifth Avenue hotel is confirmed by Hitchcock, Darling & Co., who are now, as they were originally, the proprietors of the house.

#### FOREIGN ITEMS.

Greece invites the mediation of foreign powers on the Greek Turkish frontier question. Continued high winds in Hungary have broken down several dykes, and a repetition of the Szeged horror is feared.

Senator Castelar and his adherents have issued a manifesto to the Spanish democracy in favor of religious liberty, a free press and universal suffrage.

A number of Hungarians and Austrians held a meeting yesterday afternoon at the Hotel Hungaria, Paris, to take measures for relieving the sufferers by the Szeged inundation. A subscription of two or three hundred dollars was made on the spot, and a committee appointed to receive propositions and arrange plans for benefits to aid of the flood.

A Calcutta correspondent states that complete anarchy prevails at Mandalay. The bulk of the inhabitants would welcome British troops. The hopes that an explosion will be averted are growing faint. There seems yet no good ground for interfering with Burmah. The King is fortifying Mandalay, probably through fear. War, however, may be forced on the British at any moment. It is said the King has dispatched secret emissaries to Calcutta to assassinate the claimant to the throne, who resides there.

A Tirnova dispatch to the London Times says: M. Guesboff, a leading Bulgarian inhabitant of Philippopolis, has started for the European capital to endeavor to obtain some modification of the present arrangements for the government of Eastern Rumelia. He has been advised to confine his efforts to the single point of securing a European governor for the province. This would be a fair compromise, and would probably prevent any serious outbreaks.

All the London papers which are in the habit of receiving official information state that though the communications of Lord Chelmsford, the commander in chief of the British forces in South Africa to the Duke of Cambridge, have been carefully preserved, none can be found mentioning any strain upon his mental and bodily powers. On the contrary his letters of June last take a confident and cheerful view of the situation.

Advices from Cape Town to the 5th instant mention a report that Col. Pearson had made a raid and burnt Cetewayo's old kraal. Other advices of the same date, however, do not give the impression that he is in a position to undertake an offensive operation, and state that the Zulus have destroyed the road from Zegala to Kkwane, and seem determined to do their utmost to prevent relief from reaching him. All idea of attempting to send him relief before the arrival of further reinforcements seems to be abandoned. There is much suspicion as to the loyalty of the Fingoes, who constitute a large and powerful tribe. The sickness among the soldiers of the Cape Colony is also a serious matter. Of fifty six carriers eleven only are fit for duty. The negotiations to detach Cetewayo's brother and followers from the Zulu chief have apparently failed. Lord Chelmsford's letter does not imply that either Lord Chelmsford or Sir Bartle Frere is eager to cast off his responsibility. In consequence of the prevalence of sickness it was Lord Chelmsford's duty to provide against a contingency which might leave the army without a responsible chief, and as the commander in chief holds a dormant commission, to come into force on the death or incapacitation of Sir Bartle Frere, Lord Chelmsford pointed out that the officer sent to the Cape as his second in command should be competent to undertake both the military and civil administration.

The vote on the motion for an inquiry into the affair of the conversion of the five per cent rentes which was rejected by the French Chamber of Deputies on Saturday last was 301 to 78. The London Times Paris correspondent says this is a considerable success for M. Leon Say, and it is understood that President Grevy has given notice of his satisfaction. The Chamber of Deputies was struck with the majority of M. Leon Say's explanations. The conversion of the five per cent rentes into four per cent is a measure which is not without its merits. M. Waddington, President of the Council, has been less affirmative in the first trade sense than M. Tirard, Minister of Commerce, and in alluding to American competition rather sought to justify the apprehensions of the protectionists on the subject of free trade, the delegates however pointing out that the economic attitude of America was unchanged since 1873 and 1875, when the existing treaties of commerce were discussed, modified or confirmed. Mr. Waddington did not insist but hastened to declare that the government was favorable to treaties of commerce and free trade, and would do its utmost to solve the economic questions in a liberal and far-sighted spirit.

A detailed report of the meeting of weavers at Blackburg, Eng., on Saturday, shows the existence of great excitement and a strong party in favor of a strike. Mr. Whalley, the secretary of the weaver's union for Blackburg, reported that two thirds of the masters had sent notices of a 5 per cent. reduction of wages, but that the masters were less unanimous than they were before the strike and lack of 1878. Representatives of the operatives from Church, Oswaldtwistle, Harwood, Padarn, Clitheroe, Ashton, Harncliffe and Burnley next gave reports on the effect that the general feeling in their districts favored submission until a favorable opportunity arose to recover the reduction. A motion was then submitted in favor of the acceptance of a 5 per cent. reduction on the understanding that the whole of the 15 per cent. reduction shall be restored as soon as possible. An amendment in favor of resistance by a strike, if necessary, met with much support. A disorderly scene followed. The proposition for a strike was repeatedly cheered, and the opponents thereof shouted down. It seemed as though a majority were about to decide in favor of a strike, when a motion for adjournment was proposed, so that the feelings of the masters, individually, might be further tested. The advocates of a strike refused to withdraw the proposal, and the motion for adjournment was not carried, until after four shows of hands and many appeals to the meeting to be calm, and not rashly plunge into another struggle.

#### Fire.

PHILADELPHIA, March 21.—About half past five o'clock this morning, a fire was discovered in the smoke house of Washington Butcher's Sons' Ham Curing House, Nos. 146 and 148 North Front street. No rapidly did the fire spread, that it was necessary to strike another alarm, which brought out a large number of companies to the scene, but despite their exertions the flames spread over the smoke houses in the rear and communicated to the roof of the main building, which with the contents of the top story was burned. The smoke houses were also destroyed. The main building is six stories in height, and the roof of it is a stable, running through to Race street, while alongside of this are houses used for smoking purposes, and it was in No. 2, of these houses, that the fire originated. They were all burned out and their contents destroyed. The fire at the main building was confined entirely to the upper part of it, and the damage done was principally with water, with which the place was drenched in consequence of the spread of the flames over the smoke houses. As well as could be estimated the loss will be about \$25,000, which is covered by insurance to the extent of \$300,000.

#### Talmadge.

NEW YORK, March 24.—Talmadge has secured the services of the Rev. Dr. Spear, as his counsel. His trial before the Impeaching Presbyterian commenced this afternoon in the Clinton street Church. Feeling runs high and deep in the city of churches, in regard to the case.

#### The Stairways Alarmed.

The following, taken from the Washington Republican of this morning, looks as though the radicals are alarmed at the President, by conceding to the wishes of the majority of his countrymen, shall destroy the main hope the stairways now have of prolonging their power:

"The almost incredible story is afloat that President Hayes has informally agreed to accept the emancipation of the national election laws as proposed by the democratic caucus committee. This bastard attempt at a 'compromise' is elsewhere described in full in these columns, and has received instant and utter condemnation in republican circles as soon as its terms had been made known. For this reason the rumors of its acceptance by the President are characterized as incredible; but it appears from the confident manner and talk of the democratic leaders that they have much better assurance of final success in their efforts to abrogate all law against fraud in our national elections than they had a few days ago. The rumor receives further incidental or circumstantial confirmation in the fact that Senator Lamar and other prominent misnamed conservative leaders of the ever-to-be-regretted period of bogus conciliation have been frequent visitors at the Executive Mansion lately. Of course, the assumption that their business in those visits related to political questions is based upon a simple surmise; but the political atmosphere is in such an excited condition that it is sufficient to create doubt and suspicion. This assumption, in turn, confirmed by a story that President Hayes, Secretary Everts, Senator Bayard and Representative Springer have been in consultation lately regarding the threatened dissolution of the caucus committee, the result of which has been Mr. Springer's modification of the democratic caucus proposition. This story is fully contradicted by certain friends of the Administration—a contradiction which every true republican will ardently hope to see sustained.

Among republican leaders these facts or allegations are received with anxiety akin to dismay. Senators Chandler and Baile, among others, have been heard to express doubts of their reliability, and the latter has been especially emphatic in his denunciation of the possible results that may follow from this newly suspected Bourbon intrigue. In short, it is safe to say that if the President yields his assent to this jagged compromise—and there is no positive assurance that he will—the Administration will find itself without a single supporter among the republican members of either House.

The sophistry of the democratic argument in favor of the practical invalidation of the supervisors' law embodied in the caucus proposition becomes at once apparent when it is understood that the prohibition of the exercise of police power by supervisors at national elections reduces that officer to a passivity, or, at best, confines his duties to those of a mere spectator, whose reports of what he sees may be contradicted or effaced by similar reports from an opposition source. The democratic feel assured, however, or pretend so to feel, that President Hayes will be satisfied with this proposition, because it is apparently as fair for one side as it is for the other. But it is understood that the President will have hesitation in assenting to the fact that the proposition also takes out of the hands of the national judiciary all jurisdiction over cases of fraud that may be reported by the ensnared supervisors. This is the real milk in the coconut, so to speak, and no republican who is not given to the status fall and final jurisdiction over all elections, national as well as state or municipal. This design accomplished, the permanent restoration of the Confederacy, as represented by the States rights democracy, would be simply a matter of time.

Another story of late night regarding this jagged compromise was to the effect that Mr. Abram S. Hewitt had acted as the negotiator on the part of the democrats and Secretary Everts on the part of the Administration in effecting the alleged agreement. This story requires corroboration, for it is known that Secretary Everts not long ago was very decidedly opposed to any modification or alteration of the laws in controversy, except those relating to the use of troops at the polls and to the test oath qualification for jurors.

General Garfield was also positive that there was no truth in these rumors. He had seen several members of the Cabinet recently, and the President also, and was confident that the administration would remain firm along with the republican members of Congress as regards the policy of opposition to the repeal of any portion of the supervisor law."

**DELIVERED FREEDMEN.**—Ever since the war the unfortunate freedmen have been the prey of knaves and fanatics. They have been made dissatisfied and restless by representations of the good fortune and happiness awaiting them in Kansas or Africa or some other part of the world remote from their present habitat. Railroad companies, land speculators and agents of colonization societies have done the greater part of this mischief. But weak, well meaning persons have contributed to it. Many people who do not know the negro in his home are under the impression that he would be better off somewhere else. They sign petitions to Congress asking an appropriation to remove him to the West; and they give money, along with their best wishes, to assist in deporting him to Africa. The negro, finding himself the object of so much solicitude, real or pretended, quits work and waits for the forty acres and a mule which he expects to rain down on him from the skies. His indolence, while in this expectant posture, has been a great injury to the South. The cotton, sugar, rice and tobacco crops are all the smaller in consequence of the idleness fostered among the negroes by these dreams of affluence and ease.

Some of the negroes have been so injured by this kind of a delusion that they have been at last such illusions may be dispelled, and the negro fall to work again. The loss to the country becomes more serious when the poor fellow pays out his hard earned money for a trip to Africa or Kansas in search of paradise. He never has a dollar saved to spend when he gets there. It is impossible for him to return except with charitable aid. The negroes who have been deluded by the African and Kansas colonization schemes—the most notorious of their kind—are lost to the South, and are a gain to no other region. They will probably starve in Africa unless they revert to a wild state and live on roots and snakes like savages; and they will surely bring up at the jail or poorhouse in Kansas, if they do not die of the ungenial climate on the way. How little the West wants the freedmen appears from the proclamations issued by cities in Missouri and Kansas warning off the colored emigrants. The decision which in Kansas has induced them to leave the South for the West was a cruel one, but kindness itself compared with the movement for exiling them permanently in Africa. The Western local authorities may find it cheaper to return them to the almshouses than to support them in the almshouses. But their escape from Africa would be out of the question. All these disappointments will be blessings in disguise if they impress the stay-at-home freedmen with a conviction of the truth that the whole world has no happiness for them like that which is surely theirs in their industry in the South.—N. Y. Journal of Com.

#### Violation of the Sunday Law.

NEW YORK, March 24.—The police yesterday closed Brewster's hall, in which a walking match between two or three women was progressing. It was shut up just as the Sunday Law. Pedestrian hall, where another similar exhibition was going on, was also closed. The keepers of both places announced that they would resume to-day.

#### Convicted.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., March 24.—Ex-Commissioners Baker and Mutchler, were convicted on Saturday of mal administration in office. They were indicted by the January Grand Jury, on evidence elicited by an examination ordered by the Common Council in obedience to a demand from the Law and Order Society of this city. Their conviction has caused great surprise. It is said, brought in indictments against Mayor Parsons and Police Commissioners H. C. Daniels and Frederick Zimmer on complaint of the Law and Order Society. The two events have created wide spread excitement. It is said that 80 saloon keepers have also been indicted for violation of the Sunday laws.

#### Failure.

LONDON, March 24.—Messrs. Cox Brothers, tanners and leather factors at Leeds and Bristol, have failed.

#### The Democratic Programme.

The two committees appointed respectively by the House and Senate Democratic caucuses to make recommendations concerning the order of business for the extra session held a joint meeting last Saturday.

There were present Senators Thurman, White, Kernan, Saulsbury, Jones, of Florida, Vance and Bailey, and Representatives Chalmers, Carlisle, Cox, of New York, Ewing, Springer, Tucker, Atkins, Clymer, Reagan, Bicknell, and Phelps. Senator Thurman presided.

The first question discussed was whether the political legislation desired by the dominant party in Congress should be effected by the passage of a separate measure or by the incorporation of repealing clauses, &c., in the appropriation bills.

It was finally determined that the latter course would be most expedient, especially for the reason that it seemed likely to save time, there being a general desire to finish the necessary business of the session as early as day as possible.

The determination was reached by a vote of 13 yeas, two nays and three Representatives voting in the negative.

The next question considered was whether the political portions of the appropriation bills should now be passed in the same terms which they were passed at the last session, or whether the repealing clauses in regard to the Federal election laws should be modified so as to repeal only those sections which authorize the appointment of chief supervisors and deputy marshals for elections, together with the sections conferring police powers on the supervisors, thus continuing the authorization for the appointment of two supervisors of different politics to serve in a testimonial capacity at each polls witnesses at the count of votes.

After an exhaustive discussion it was decided to recommend the adoption of the modified proposition above described. The vote was 14 yeas, 4 nays, two Senators and two Representatives in favor of total repeal.

The joint meeting then authorized Senators Thurman, Saulsbury, Bailey and Kernan, and Representatives Chalmers, Springer, Carlisle, and Atkins to formulate provisions in order to carry out this decision in regard to the election laws, and also provisions for the total repeal of the laws relating to the existing authorization of the presence of troops at the polls for incorporation in the legislative, executive and judicial, and the army appropriation bills, together with such additional provisions as they may deem necessary to secure free and fair elections for Representatives and Delegates to Congress. They were also especially authorized to consider the propriety of framing a substitute for section 5522 of the Revised Statutes, which prescribes penalties for violations of the election laws. Mr. Springer's proposition to provide, in addition to the repeal of the law concerning the presence of troops at the polls, for the enactment of existing English statute of George II., on that subject was very favorably received and the joint subcommittee will probably recommend its adoption.

It prohibits any soldier stationed within two miles of a voting place from leaving his quarters on an election day, except to relieve aged or to go to the polls to vote, and requires him in the latter case to return to his quarters immediately afterward. The joint subcommittee met at three o'clock to-day and expect to report to another joint meeting of the two caucuses committees to-morrow.

After appointing the subcommittee the joint meeting proceeded to consider the question whether the legislation of the present session should be strictly confined to the appropriation bills, including the measures above indicated, or whether general business should be transacted by either House who not engaged on an appropriation bill.

A decided majority of the Senate caucus committee favored restriction of the business of the session to appropriation bills, and to the enactment of what is known as the yellow fever bill. A majority of the House committee insisted that the opportunities for transacting general business should be improved, without, however, prolonging the session after the appropriation bill has been passed.

It was finally decided to report a disagreement on this subject to joint caucus, and leave the settlement of the question to a majority of the Democratic members of both Houses.

#### NEWS OF THE DAY.

Miss Maggie McNeill fell over a cliff seventy feet high, at Scranton, Pa., on Saturday, and was fatally injured.

About 400 of the plantation negroes who recently arrived at St. Louis from the South left there last night for Kansas, and about 200 more arrived from Mississippi yesterday afternoon.

In Baltimore last Saturday night Sergeant Harvey shot and killed Edward Weldon near a High street variety show and Mrs. Kirchner threw vitriol in the face of John Schlercher.

The report of the Board of Inquiry in the case of General Fitz John Porter has been received by the Secretary of War and been sent to the President for action. It is said to be favorable to General Porter.

The American Steamship line, Philadelphia to Liverpool, have made a reduction of 12 per cent. on passenger rates for the coming summer season.

Professor Peters, of Clinton, N. Y., announces the discovery by himself yesterday morning of two planets, one of the tenth magnitude in 11 hours 58 minutes right ascension, and 9° 22' north declination; the other of the eleventh magnitude in 12 hours 11 minutes right ascension, and 9° 31' north declination, moving north.

Adam Schmidt, the occupant of a tenement house in New York, lost four children last week from scarlet fever. The four little ones were taken to the cemetery on Friday, and the heart broken parents returned to find their only remaining child, an infant, attacked with the same terrible disease.

The Tennessee Senate, on Saturday, passed a bill constituting the State officers a board of finance to purchase bonds at prices not to exceed 40 cents on the dollar, every surplus \$20,000 coming into the treasury to be appropriated to that purpose.

A tornado struck Milledgeville, Ga., Saturday, demolished the Oconee river bridge, killing a negro and two mules while upon it, and unroofed a number of houses, causing a total damage of \$17,000. A storm of the severest nature swept over Memphis just after midnight. It came from the southwest and continued for three hours. During its progress the lightning struck the cotton and woolen mills situated in the southern portion of the city, which were entirely consumed. These mills were valued at \$90,000, and employed a force of 125 persons who are thus thrown out of work. The insurance amounted to \$60,000.

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#### FROM WASHINGTON.

WASHINGTON, March 22, 1879.  
There was no session of the House to-day. That fact and the additional one that to-day was the time for the election of the officers of the Senate caused quite a crowd in the hall of the Senate chamber. The galleries and the floor in the rear of the seats being well filled. Judging from the number of bills, orders and resolutions introduced to-day the business of a regular session has commenced, for rarely have so many introduced during one day. Among them was a bill by Mr. Johnston of Kentucky for the Washington and St. Louis Narrow Gauge Railroad, and one with the remarkable title of bill for the benefit of John Smith.

Mr. Saulsbury called up the resolution he introduced the second day of the session calling for information concerning expenditures by the Secretary of the Treasury, which the regular ones, with all their difficulty could not open, though Mr. Morrill said it would cause immense labor and cripple the work of the department by absorbing as much of its efficient force.

Mr. Hoar gave notice that he would call up to-morrow his partisan resolution introduced two or three days ago.

The Senate then on motion of Mr. Waller proceeded to the election of its officers. Mr. Anthony delivered a carefully prepared speech against the changes proposed to be made in which he designated the Senate as the conservative branch of Congress, and stated that and now no such sweeping changes as those contemplated had ever been made, and that of the present employees thirty odd were Democrats. He gave as historical allusion of the officers of the Senate. He was followed by Mr. Hendon, who also opposed a change of officers upon purely political grounds.

Mr. Waller embarked what had been said by the two gentlemen who preceded him, and urged that what the Democrats proposed doing was right and proper.

Mr. Cocke then said this was the first time in the history of the Senate that all its officers but one were to be removed to satisfy the voracity of office seekers and political huxers. He had hoped that the civil service, about which so much had been heard some time since, was at least to be partially operative in the Senate. Mr. Bayard followed Mr. Cocke, and was speaking at two o'clock when this report closed. He said that Mr. Anthony had made many omissions in his narrative, and that of the applicants for positions there were many who had been removed from the places they now sought for nothing less than their political opinions. He also said that for the first time in the history of the Senate the secretary about to be removed had used his office to protect his own tenure of office and the hold his party had upon the government. Mr. Bayard also said that he would never consent to a change of all the officers of the Senate simply for political opinion's sake.

Senator Johnston has appointed Jesse E. Henson clerk of his committee, and Mr. White has appointed Henry Cook clerk of the committee of which he is chairman.

It is reported that ex-Congressman Rutledge, colored, of South Carolina, will be appointed Third Auditor of the Treasury.

The President sent the following nominations to the Senate to-day: Dr. John R. Hamilton, of Ill., to be supervising Surgeon General of the United States Marine Hospital service; John M. Wilson, of Ohio, to be consul at Panama; George Seizes, of Ill., to be consul at Hamburg; Jefferson P. Keller, of Dakota, Assistant Justice of the Supreme Court of Dakota; Howard White, Indian Agent, Omaha Agency, Neb.; Postmaster—John Steen, at Washington, D. C.; Solomon Starr, Deadwood, Dakota; Joseph Hopkins, Brownsville, Texas.

#### Embezzlement.

NEW YORK, March 24.—On an order of arrest, clerk Quincy and deputy sheriff Mattingly to-day arrested Henry Beldin, Jr., of the firm of Beldin & Co., stock brokers, on a warrant charging the firm with an embezzlement of \$900.00 deposited with the firm by General T. T. Abbott. Mr. Beldin was found at his office on Broadway, and readily accompanied the deputy sheriff. He expressed no surprise at the arrest, and said he was prepared for it. He was taken to the sheriff's office accompanied by several friends, and promptly furnished bail, securities for his return to his home at 200 West 42d street, and returned to his business. Sheriff's office declined to give notice of his arrest. Sheriff's office was now looking for the remaining members of the firm against whom they also hold warrants.

#### Conspiracy.

NEW YORK, March 24.—The case of the U. S. against Anthony DeGrifol was on the calendar of the Criminal branch of the U. S. Circuit Court for trial to-day, on a charge of conspiracy to destroy evidence held by the government against him in a civil suit to recover large sums for under valuation of bills and notes. When the case was called, Judge Knapp asked said he was in Europe, but would return on July 1st, and said he would be commenced against DeGrifol's bondsmen to recover the amount.

**JOKES ON JUDGE RIVES.**—It is related that during the recent case of Judge Rives' Court in De Grifol a young lawyer, who had a somewhat knotty case to argue, prevailed upon an elderly "snub of the law" to